THREE PHOTOGRAPHERS DOCUMENT

Gianfranco Gorgoni/Babette Mangolte/Harry Shunk

Hallwalls Gallery, Buffalo October 6-29, 1978
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Photographs by Gianfranco Gorgoni, Babette Mangolte, Harry Shunk

Recently established art forms have necessitated new approaches to documentation and consequently have created an expanded role for the documenting photographer.

Photographs assume special significance when they become a primary access to an art event. Due to their temporary nature and/or geographic location performances, installations and earthworks reach their largest audience through documentary photography. The challenge to the photographer is great: to select and record an expression of the art idea, recognizing and preserving the artist's intent. The wide diversity of materials, locations, spaces and media necessary to the realization of the art idea requires creative selection and innovation on the part of the photographer.

Gianfranco Gorgoni, Babette Mangolte, and Harry Shunk have distinguished themselves by being among the first to recognize the significance of recording these new art forms. The varied experiences of these three photographers are manifested in their individual approaches to this specialized form of documentary photography.

This collection of work documents a wide range of contemporary art events. Carefully conceived, these photographs convey the art idea and illustrate the skill and sensitivity of the photographers through the creative composition of the photographic images.

Debby DeStaffan
Guest Curator

This catalogue is sponsored by Photo Tech Studios, Buffalo
Babette Mangolte

Joan Jonas, Funnel, N.Y.C., 1974
Harry Shunk

Gordon Matta-Clark, *Pier 18, N.Y.C.*, 1971
I would like to thank the following people for their contributions in making this exhibition and catalogue possible: Hallwalls, especially, Charles Clough, William Currie, Robert Longo, John Magiott, Patrick J. O'Connell. Also Don Faber, Rita Grotte, Charloa Kotik, Albright-Knox Art Gallery; John Minkowsky, Media Study/Buffalo; and special thanks to Mark Fruehauf.

Finally, I wish to express my gratitude to Gianfranco Gorgoni, Babette Mangolte and Harry Shunk for their work and the time and energy they have devoted to this exhibition.

D.D.

Biography

Gianfranco Gorgoni
Born
Rome, Italy, 1941
Resides
N.Y.C.

Babette Mangolte
Born
Montmorot (Jura), France, 1941
Resides
N.Y.C.

Harry Shunk
Born
Not provided
Resides
N.Y.C.

Published by
Hallwalls, Inc.
30 Essex Street
Buffalo, N.Y. 14213

Sponsored in part by the New York State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts

500 copies of this catalogue, designed by Debby DeStaffan, have been printed by Ann Rosen of Hard Press, on the occasion of this exhibition.